



DONA FULLER PAT MEROLA SHIRLEY YORK ALICE GARGALIS ZOLA BELLWOOD SANDY GULBRANSON DOROTHY SANDSTROM
 One Of These Seven Lovely Torrance Girls Will Be Named Miss Torrance of 1951 at the Conclusion of the Current Junior Woman's Queen Contest Which Ends With the Coronation on April 7. (All photos by Dixie Lee Smith Studio).



TALL TALES . . . One-year old Mark Loftus shows an early interest in politics as he surveys this stack of leaflets—each one of which is a bill introduced in this session of the State Legislature. (Herald photo).

Zoellerating:

Zola Bellwood Holds Lead in Queen Contest

Zola Bellwood, one of seven candidates for the title of Miss Torrance of 1951, held onto the lead she established last week by amassing 14,202 votes, according to her Zoellerating announced this week by CPA William Zoeller.

Designated by the Junior Woman's Club as the official vote-counter for the Queen Contest, Zoeller said that Pat Merola, in third place last week, had moved up one notch to capture second place this week with 12,831 votes.

In third place was Dona Fuller with 10,698 votes. She was in fifth place last week.

Standing of the seven candidates at the end of the second week, according to the official tally were:

Zola Bellwood	14,202
Pat Merola	12,831
Dona Fuller	10,698
Sandy Gulbranson	10,001
Dorothy Sandstrom	7,635
Shirley York	6,251
Alice Gargalis

General chairman of the 1951 Queen Contest, Miss Mary Schultz, announced that the Coronation Ball would be held in the Civic Auditorium on April 7. The contest will end April 1.

During the coming week the candidates will be the guests of honor at the various Torrance service clubs, she said.

Help With State Income Tax Offered Residents

A state income tax examiner will be available at the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce in Wilmington today and tomorrow to assist taxpayers in filing their state income tax. Thomas H. Kichel, chairman of the Franchise Tax Board, announced recently.

BOTHERED WITH BILLS?

The Legislature Has 5320 of 'Em

There'll be some tall tales told in the State Legislature when it reconvenes in Sacramento today. They will be at least 22 inches tall, for sure.

This is what one-year-old Mark Loftus discovered the other day when he and his mother, Mrs. Marshall (nee Billingsley) Loftus, dropped into the Herald office and surveyed the stack of Assembly and Senate Bills which arrived recently from the Sacramento office of Assemblyman Vincent Thomas.

Sizing up the situation to tell his daddy, Lt. Loftus, now on duty in Korea, young Mark, who lives at 622 Pine drive, discovered this about the stack of bills to be pushed through the Legislature.

There are 5167 Bills; 71 Constitutional Amendments; 56 Concurrent Resolutions; and 26 Joint Resolutions—a total of 5320 in all.

"I'll be a busy session and likely a breezy one as the Assemblymen and Senators discuss everything from stray dogs to Municipal Courts—both of which are to come before the law-makers this session.

Rev. Lingenfelter Near Death

Flung head-on to the pavement in a auto collision, the 85-year-old former minister of the Torrance First Christian Church, Benjamin H. Lingenfelter, lay near death at Harbor General Hospital yesterday.

The aged pastor, who lives at 25830 Pennsylvania avenue, was in "very critical" condition from a "possible skull fracture," hospital authorities indicated.

Prominent in area church affairs for the past 20 years, Lingenfelter was injured about 8 a.m. Monday in an accident at the intersection of Figueroa street and Ocean avenue in Keystone.

Sheriff's deputies said that Lingenfelter's old coupe was struck by a sedan driven by Provard Phillips, 28, of Los Angeles. The minister's car was completely turned around by the impact and Lingenfelter was "flung violently out of the left door," according to officers.

Still active among his parishioners, the pastor was enroute to visit an ill member of his congregation at the time of the crash.

He had been living at the home of Mrs. J. I. Compton, of the Pennsylvania avenue address, for the past four years. For 16 years previous to that time he resided in Torrance.

Lingenfelter served as minister of the First Christian Church two decades ago and had held various pastorates throughout the western United States, including Seattle and Tacoma, Wash.



REV. BEN LINGENFELTER
 . . . Accident Victim Near Death

578th ORDERED TO JAPAN

Although no names were released, a 40th Division National Guard spokesman told the Herald yesterday that "practically all" of the local 578th Combat Engineer Battalion would be sent to Japan in mid-March.

At the time the local guard unit was ordered into active federal duty last September, approximately 165 men from Torrance, Lomita, Harbor City, and other near-by areas were members of the Battalion.

The public relations officer for Major General Daniel Huddelson said that the men would receive leaves before sailing "if at all possible." He indicated he could not say when or how long the leaves would be.

The 578th was stationed at the Torrance City Park and the Torrance Municipal Airport until September 6 when the outfit left for Camp Cooke along with other units attached to the 40th Division of the California National Guard. The 40th was one of two divisions ordered to Japan earlier this week "to provide additional security" for the island.

Maj. Worth Larkin, PRO of the division, said the training of the local battalion would continue overseas.

He indicated that the 578th would not be sent into combat until the men had received additional engineering training in Japan.

Maj. Larkin said he did not know the exact date the Division would ship out and when he did know he would not be able to release the information for security reasons.



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GI Flight School, 21 Planes In Shift to Torrance Strip

Torrance Oil Fields Under Study by State

A rig-by-rig inspection of the Torrance oil field's nearly 400 derricks was begun this week by an official of the State Division of Industrial Safety, a branch of the Department of Industrial Relations.

Using a miner's pick hammer

Spring Fever Gets Grip On Civic Association

Spring gardening in North Torrance has inspired Kenneth Beight, program chairman of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, to feature as guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the association, Charles Luger, instructor in the college of agriculture at El Camino Junior College. Mr. Luger will speak on adobe.

The meeting will be held at McMaster Park on Wednesday, March 7, at 8 p.m.

A special meeting on Civilian Defense will be announced at the March 7 meeting.

and a notebook, William J. Hobbs, a state safety engineer, began his inspection Tuesday morning at a derrick near the intersection of Arlington avenue and Sepulveda boulevard.

"I plan to check out those rigs first which are adjacent to homes in the area," Hobbs said.

His check is thorough. He inspects the sills and beams for dry rot, examines the alignment and bracing of the derricks, and looks to see that the proper safeguards such as rails have been placed around the machinery and working parts of the well. All safety precautions must be maintained according to the standards prescribed in the California State Labor Code, Hobbs said.

DEFECTS LISTED

Defects noted in the various derricks will be listed and the operator notified, that he has about 30 days to correct them, the inspector said. If at the end of that time the oilman has made no move to correct the defects listed, a show-cause order will be sent to him by the state. This time, Hobbs said, the operator will have only about 15 days to do something about the hazards which the inspection has uncovered.

OPERATORS HELP

"Actually, the operators are anxious to cooperate," he stated. He has talked to a number of operators in the Torrance field during the past week, he said, and anticipates no trouble here.

One aspect of the hazard created by the existence of the derricks over which Hobbs' division has no control is the abandoned rig. If no one is employed or works at the rig, the Division of Industrial Safety has



DERRICK CHECK STARTED . . . Safety Engineer William Hobbs digs his hand pick into an oil rig timber to check for dry rot as he starts the huge task of checking each of the approximately 400 derricks in the Torrance field. He estimates that the job may take him a year to complete. (Herald photo).

Compton Airport To Close

Plans to bring approximately 21 more airplanes, a GI flying school, and a motel and cocktail lounge onto the Torrance Municipal Airport were revealed this week by Ed Dietrich, manager of the flight strip.

Details of the increase in activities at the airport were revealed by Dietrich following an announcement by E. G. "Slim" Kidwell, operator of the Central Airport in Compton, that he would move his facilities to Torrance. Kidwell has sold his airport property in Compton to a new-home developer.

SIX TRAINING PLANES

The school, B and G Air Services, is operated by Cliff Bantell who formerly operated a flying school on the now abandoned Bay Cities Airport in North Torrance. Bantell currently has six airplanes including a twin-engine Cessna based at the Central Airport in Compton.

Kidwell said he plans to bring to the Torrance airport a \$25,000 cafe, bar, and a five-unit motel which will be located on airport property but which will face Pacific Coast Highway.

OWNERS JOIN MOVE

The two all-steel hangars Kidwell intends moving, here will house 15 privately owned planes. The owners of the planes indicated they would move with Kidwell and consider the local field as their base of operations. Under the terms of a 15 to 20 year lease now being negotiated between City Manager George W. Stevens, Dietrich, and Kidwell the buildings would eventually become the property of the city.

The lease covers approximately two-and-one half acres on which Kidwell will locate his hangars and sales agency for Bellanca aircraft parts.

OPERATOR WELL-KNOWN

Kidwell is well-known in aviation circles having recently completed his 28th year in the business. He has operated the Compton airport for 11 years. He also operated the old Western

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